

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces and supersedes all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Convertible top for a convertible vehicle ~~(2)~~ having comprising: a rear-end roof segment ~~(6)~~, a front-end roof segment ~~(8)~~ and at least one central roof segment ~~(7)~~, with the roof segments ~~(6, 7, 8)~~ having opposing outer roof frame profiles ~~(9, 10, 11)~~ arranged symmetrically with a vehicle longitudinal axis ~~(33)~~ which can be folded up in accordion fashion via a convertible top mechanism, ~~characterized in that~~

wherein the outer roof frame profiles of the at least one central roof segment are shifted in the direction of the center of the vehicle and rotated about an axis at least approximately parallel to the vehicle longitudinal axis in comparison to a position in which the convertible top is put up by means of a guide mechanism and the roof segments ~~(9, 10, 11)~~ are arranged essentially one above the other in a folded position with the convertible top ~~(4)~~ down, with the curvature in the same direction ~~and the outer roof frame profiles (10) of the at least one central roof segment (7) shifted in the direction of the center of the vehicle and rotated about an axis at least approximately parallel to the vehicle longitudinal axis (33) in comparison to a position in which the convertible top (1) is put up by means of a guide mechanism (21, 21')~~.

2. (Currently Amended) Convertible top in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the roof segments ~~(9, 10, 11)~~ are situated one above the other in the folded position such that their curvature faces away from a vehicle bottom ~~(46)~~.

3. (Currently Amended) Convertible top in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the roof segments are situated one above the other in the folded position such that their curvature is facing a vehicle bottom.

4. (Currently Amended) Convertible top in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ an outer roof frame profile ~~(10)~~ of the at least one central roof segment ~~(7)~~ in the folded position is rotated by at least approximately 180.degree. in comparison with its position when the top ~~(4)~~ is up.

5. (Currently Amended) Convertible top in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the guide mechanism ~~(24)~~ of the outer roof frame profile ~~(40)~~ of the at least one central roof segment ~~(7)~~ has a guide rod ~~(29)~~ coupled to the convertible top mechanism, the outer roof frame profile ~~(40)~~ of the at least one central roof segment being guided axially displaceably on the guide rod so that it is rotated about its longitudinal axis in the case of an axial movement with respect to the guide rod ~~(29)~~.

6. (Currently Amended) Convertible top in accordance with claim 5, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the outer roof frame profile ~~(40)~~ of the at least one central roof segment

engages with a sliding block (34) in a spiral groove (30) created in the guide rod (29), with the sliding block (34) being coupled to the kinematics of the convertible top mechanism via a coupling element (32).

7. (Currently Amended) Convertible top in accordance with claim 6, characterized ~~in that~~ wherein the coupling element (32) is connected first to the sliding block (34) in an axially fixed and rotationally movable manner and second is connected like a hinge to an articulated element (36) of an articulated chain (46) of the convertible top mechanism.

8. (Withdrawn) Convertible top in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that the guide mechanism (21') of the outer roof frame profile (10) of the at least one central roof segment (7) has a control rod (47) coupled to the convertible top mechanism and pivotable about a pivot axis (A4) running parallel to the transverse axis of the vehicle and to which the outer roof frame profile (10) is connected in an articulated manner by a lever arrangement (49), with the lever arrangement (49) being pivotable about tilted axes (A1, A2, A3) which run at an angle to the pivot axis (A4) of the control rod (47) such that the outer roof frame profile (10) is shifted in the direction of the center of the vehicle and is rotated with respect to an axis that is parallel to the longitudinal axis (33) of the vehicle when the control rod (47) is pivoted.

9. (Withdrawn) Convertible top in accordance with claim 8, characterized in that the control rod (47) is connected in an articulated joint to the front roof segment (8), in particular to its outer roof frame profile (11) arranged on the respective side.

10. (Withdrawn) Convertible top in accordance with claim 8, characterized in that a first pivot lever (50) of the lever arrangement (49) connects the outer roof frame profile (10) of the central roof segment (7) to the control rod (47) in an articulated joint with the first pivot lever (50) being pivotable about a first tilted axis (A1) with respect to the outer roof frame profile (10) of the central roof segment (7) and being pivotable about a second tilted axis (A2) with respect to the control rod (47).

11. (Withdrawn) Convertible top in accordance with claim 10, characterized in that the articulated connection of the first pivot lever (50) to the control rod (47) is arranged around the second tilted axis (A2) in an end area of the control rod (47) facing away from the connection of the control rod (47) to the front roof segment (6).

12. (Withdrawn) Convertible top in accordance with claim 10, characterized in that the articulated connection of the first pivot lever (50) to the outer roof frame profile (10) is arranged around the first tilted axis (A1) in a rear-end area of the outer roof frame profile (10) in the up position of the convertible top (1).

13. (Withdrawn) Convertible top in accordance with claim 8, characterized in that a second pivot lever (51) of the lever arrangement (49) connects in an articulated joint the outer roof frame profile (10) of the central roof segment (7) to the front roof segment (8), in particular to its roof frame profile (11) arranged on the respective vehicle side, with the second pivot lever (51) being pivotable about a pivot point (D1) with respect to the outer roof frame profile (10) of the central roof segment (7) and being pivotable about a third tilted axis (A3) with respect to the front roof segment (8).

14. (Withdrawn) Convertible top in accordance with claim 13, characterized in that the connection between the second pivot lever (51) and the outer roof frame profile (10) of the central roof segment (7) is designed at the pivot point (D1) by means of a ball joint (52).

15. (Withdrawn) Convertible top in accordance with claim 13, characterized in that the connection of the second pivot lever (51) on the front roof segment (8) is arranged in a rear-end area of the outer roof frame profile (11) of the front roof segment (8).

16. (Withdrawn) Convertible top in accordance with claim 13, characterized in that the connection of the second pivot lever (51) to the outer roof frame profile (10) of the central roof segment (7) is arranged in an area of the outer roof frame profile (10) of

the central roof segment (7) that is at the front when the convertible top (1) is in the up position.

17. (Currently Amended) Convertible top in accordance with claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the guide rod ~~(29)~~ ~~or the control rod (47)~~ is connected to the front roof segment ~~(8)~~ of the convertible top mechanism in an articulated joint at one end and to ~~the~~ an articulated chain ~~(16)~~ of the convertible top mechanism at the other end.

18. (Currently Amended) Convertible top in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least the rear-end roof segment ~~(6)~~ is designed with a flexible roof membrane ~~(3)~~ which is accommodated between the outer roof frame profiles ~~(9)~~ facing the rear-end roof segment ~~(6)~~ and a dimensionally stable rear window ~~(12)~~.

19. (Currently Amended) Convertible top in accordance with claim 18, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the rear window ~~(12)~~ and the outer roof frame profiles ~~(9)~~ of the rear-end roof segment ~~(6)~~ are converted into or out of the folded position in a movement in the same direction.

20. (Currently Amended) Convertible top in accordance with claim 18, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the rear window ~~(12)~~ and the outer roof frame profiles ~~(9)~~ of the rear-end roof segment ~~(6)~~ are arranged essentially parallel to one another during

their movement into or out of the folded position.

21. (Currently Amended) Convertible top in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein an outer roof frame profile (9) of the rear-end roof segment (6) is connected to a 4-bar linkage mechanism (15) that is in turn connected in an articulated manner to two pivot points (13, 14) fixedly provided on ~~the~~ a body of the convertible vehicle and is also connected to an articulated chain (16) which transmits the movement to the other roof segments (7, 8).

22. (Currently Amended) Convertible top in accordance with claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the 4-bar linkage mechanism (15) is designed with a first angled lever (17) and a second angled lever (18), each of which is hinge-connected in an articulated joint to a pivot point (13, 14) fixedly provided on the body of the convertible vehicle and to the outer roof frame profile (9) of the rear-end roof segment.

23. (Currently Amended) Convertible top in accordance with claim 22, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the pivot point (13) of the first lever (17) is fixedly provided on the body of the convertible vehicle and is arranged so ~~[[it]]~~ the first lever is offset higher and toward the front in comparison with the pivot point (14) of the second lever (18) fixedly provided on the body of the convertible vehicle.

24. (Currently Amended) Convertible top in accordance with claim 22, characterized in that wherein a joint (20) is provided between the first lever (18) and the outer roof frame profile (9) of the rear-end roof segment in an area at the front in ~~[[the]]~~ an up position of the convertible top (1) and a joint (20) is provided between the second lever (18) and the outer roof frame profile (9) of the rear-end roof segment in an area of the outer roof frame profile (9) at the rear in the up position of the top (1).

25. (Currently Amended) Convertible top in accordance with claim 22, characterized in that wherein the first lever (17) is formed at least approximately in a U shape and the second lever (18) is designed at least approximately in an L shape, with the connection to the outer roof frame profile (9) of the rear-end roof segment and to the pivot points (13,14) fixedly provided on the body of the convertible vehicle being arranged in the area of a leg end of ~~[[the]]~~ each lever (17,18).

26. (Currently Amended) Convertible top in accordance with claim 22, characterized in that wherein preferably the first lever (17) is connected to a drive (22) of the convertible top (1).

27. (Currently Amended) Convertible top in accordance with claim 23, characterized in that wherein ~~[[the]]~~ a rear window (12) of the convertible vehicle is connected to the 4-bar linkage mechanism (15) by an articulated strap (25) and is connected to the outer roof frame profile (9) of the rear-end roof segment via ~~[[the]]~~ a

flexible roof membrane ~~(3)~~.

28. (Currently Amended) Convertible top in accordance with claim 22, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a main convertible top tension bar (4) is hinge-connected to the second lever ~~(18)~~.

29. (Currently Amended) Convertible top in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein ~~[[the]]~~ an articulated chain ~~(16)~~ has a first articulated bracket ~~(37)~~ and a second articulated bracket ~~(40)~~ for the transfer of movement, these articulated brackets at least one of opening and~~[[/or]]~~ closing in opposition to one another and being rotationally connected to one another via a joint ~~(43)~~ arranged on the outer roof frame profile ~~(9)~~ of the rear roof segment ~~(6)~~, with the first articulated bracket ~~(37)~~ being hinge-connected to ~~[[the]]~~ a first lever ~~(17)~~ of ~~[[the]]~~ a 4-bar linkage mechanism ~~(15)~~ and the second articulated bracket ~~(40)~~ being hinge-connected to the guide mechanism ~~(21, 21')~~ of the outer roof frame profile ~~(10)~~ of the central roof segment ~~(7)~~.

30. (Currently Amended) Convertible top in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the outer roof frame profile ~~(11)~~ of the front roof segment ~~(7)~~ is preferably hinge-connected on the rear end of ~~[[the]]~~ a connection of the guide mechanism ~~(21, 21')~~ for the outer roof frame profile ~~(10)~~ of the central roof segment ~~(7)~~

with a rod ~~(44)~~ leading to a front area of the outer roof frame profile ~~(6)~~ of the rear-end roof segment ~~(9)~~.